

Marine Aviation Logistics Modernization

For Marine Aviation to effectively fight future conflicts, logistics support must continue to be the viable force multiplier that Marine warfighters have relied upon through the years and through many conflicts. Logistics processes must evolve and advance if Marines are to expect the equal or better support in the future. Failing to address the need for logistical change will prolong vulnerabilities, such as conspicuous and fixed targets, reduce the ability to rapidly respond to logistics needs, and result in higher-than necessary costs in finances, resources, and effort.

Marine Aviation is reshaping its logistics elements to enable the highly effective and agile combat support needed for future conflicts, while concurrently meeting today's readiness needs. The key pillars of this modernization effort are: Naval Aviation Enterprise AIRSpeed, the Marine Aviation Logistics Support Program II (MALSP II), and systems modernization.

AIRSPEED

The change for aviation logistics is driven by the Naval Aviation business integration strategy of AIRSpeed. AIRSpeed is the enterprise-wide change to the Naval Aviation logistics system, which revolutionizes the stagnant legacy business rules of retail and wholesale supply, and repairs those processes at squadron, intermediate (ships and air stations), and industrial levels (depot and commercial manufacturers). AIRSpeed is the architecture that

integrates and aligns the flow and incentives of local actions into better global performance. The AIRSpeed architecture utilizes proven business practices of the commercial sector, including the Theory of Constraints, Lean Manufacturing, and Six Sigma.

MARINE AVIATION LOGISTICS SUPPORT PROGRAM II (MALSP II)

For Marine Aviation, AIRSpeed offers the opportunity to dramatically improve expeditionary logistics for the warfighter. Specifically, the AIRSpeed philosophy and principles will be the basis for improving the time-tested doctrine of the Marine Aviation Logistics Support Program (MALSP). Applying AIRSpeed, MALSP-II becomes the comprehensive aviation logistics program that postures Marine Aviation of tomorrow by enhancing the future Aviation Combat Element's (ACE's) operational freedom of maneuver with a more reliable and effective logistics system, which is adaptive in form, proactive in engagement, and lighter overall. MALSP-II increases Marine Aviation's ability to rapidly deploy, employ, sustain, and redeploy in austere regions, as well as anti-access and denied-area environments. In addition, MALSP-II provides an improved solution set for addressing uncertainty, variability, and unpredictability. A MALSP II Pilot Program began in FY 2005 and successive phases of development began in FY 2006.

SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION

AIRSpeed and MALSP II provide the operational framework that enables Marine Aviation to take full and rapid advantage of emerging technologies and systems. Autonomic logistics, improved information technologies, advanced transportation solutions, and enhanced industry partnerships on new platform acquisitions will all merge within the AIRSpeed/MALSP II approach.

A Marine Corps Study is being commissioned, and will focus on the organization and deployment of the future Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron. Currently, a logistics supply chain gap analysis of aviation and ground logistics is being conducted as part of the MAGTF Logistics Integration (MLI) effort. This effort seeks synergism from common logistics processes and tools between the aviation and ground logistics communities in order to create a true “MAGTF logistics” capability.